

IN THE CLAIMS

The text of all claims under examination is submitted, and the status of each is identified. This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (currently amended): A method for improving printability of ~~uncoated~~ mechanical pulp paper which method comprises

- applying a combination of alkyl ketene dimer and styrene maleic acid anhydride copolymer onto at least one side of ~~the~~ a paper web, and
- calendering the paper web.

2. (currently amended): The method according to claim 1 wherein the combination of alkyl ketene dimer and styrene maleic acid anhydride copolymer is applied before ~~(super)~~ calendering.

3. (currently amended): The method according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~ wherein the combination of alkyl ketene dimer ~~(AKD)~~ and styrene maleic acid anhydride copolymer ~~(SMA)~~ is a mixture of alkyl ketene dimer AKD and SMA styrene maleic acid anhydride copolymer.

4. (original): The method according to claim 3 wherein the mixture of alkyl ketene dimer and styrene maleic acid anhydride copolymer is applied together with moistening water.

5. (currently amended): The method according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 1 ~~to 4~~ wherein the paper to be treated is uncalendered paper.

6. (currently amended): The method according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 1 ~~to 5~~ wherein the weight ratio of alkyl ketene dimer to styrene maleic acid anhydride copolymer is 1:5 – 2:1, ~~preferably 1:1...2.~~

7. (currently amended): The method according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 1 ~~to 6~~ wherein the combination of alkyl ketene dimer and styrene maleic acid anhydride copolymer is applied onto the paper web in an amount of 0.05 – 0.8 g/m².

8. (currently amended): The method according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 1 ~~to 7~~ wherein the combination of alkyl ketene dimer and styrene maleic acid anhydride copolymer is applied onto the paper web

- at a separate ~~(super)~~calender before or during calendering, or
- at ~~the~~ a paper machine before or during on-line ~~(super)~~calendering, or
- at ~~the~~ a paper machine before the paper web is passed to a separate ~~(super)~~calender.

9. (currently amended): The method according to ~~any one of claims claim~~ claim 1 to 8 wherein before applying the combination of AKD alkyl ketene dimer and styrene maleic acid anhydride copolymer-SMA the paper web is dried to a ~~suitable moisture content~~, preferably to a moisture content <15%.

10. (cancelled).

11. (currently amended): The ~~use~~ method according to claim ~~40~~ 1 wherein the improved printable paper is ~~SC~~ supercalendered paper or newsprint paper.

12. (currently amended): Paper prepared according to the method of ~~any one of claims claim~~ 1 to 9.

13. (currently amended): ~~Use of the~~ The paper according to claim 12 which paper is ~~in~~ a rotogravure printing ~~process~~ paper.